

Treasures of Portugal
March 18-March 27, 2022

Horticultural Society of Maryland & Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland

2022 TOUR

Spring in Portugal: Treasures of Porto, Lisbon, and Douro Valley

March 18-March 27, 2022

**Optional Post-Tour of 3 nights, 4 days to
Madeira, March 27-30, 2022**

We are continuing our series of garden intensive tours with a change of venue to the sunny shores of Portugal. The relatively small size of Portugal means that it's possible to tick off numerous highlights even in limited time. Explore wine-rich Porto, trendy Lisbon, and majestic Sintra, the summer retreat of the Royals in bygone times. Explore the best city sights of Lisbon with a private guide and experience the art of Fado, with a singing performance at a local Lisbon restaurant. Relax on a river cruise on the iconic Douro River, sampling the local Port Wine. The mild climate of Portugal means that we will experience Camellias in bloom blanketing northern Portugal with fantastic silky multi-colored petals. This journey



continues with an add on extension to explore Portugal's "pearl of the Atlantic", Madeira, a volcanic island in the Atlantic Ocean 500 miles west of Morocco. Known for a year-round spring climate and soaring mountains, there is an abundance of exotic fruit and superlative seafood and unusual wines. Madeira natives are extremely friendly and most speak two or three languages, one of which is usually English. The gardens are tropical and lush.

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Day 1- Friday March 18 Arrival in Lisbon on your own D

Arrive at Lisbon Portela Airport where you will be met and welcomed by your tour manager. Join an afternoon guided sightseeing tour of Lisbon, including the Belem Tower, Monument of the Discoveries, Jeronimos Monastery, and St George's Castle around which lies the historic Alfam district, the old Arab quarter of the city with its winding narrow streets and tightly packed houses. This evening there will be a welcome dinner at our hotel.

Overnight: Lisbon

Day 2-Saturday March 19 B,D

Start the day with a guided tour of one of the world's great museums and one of Europe's unsung treasures, the Gulbenkian Museum, housing a magnificent collection of Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Islamic, Asian, and European art. There will be an opportunity to explore the surrounding park, covering some 17 acres which contain a great variety of native and tropical plants.

This afternoon visit the Fronteira Palace, a 17th century Renaissance house and garden. The exquisite garden is famous for box parterres and some of the most beautiful examples of tilework in Portugal, depicting hunting, battles, and religious scenes. Statuary figures personifying the arts and mythological figures as well as busts of Portuguese kings are on display.

This evening attend a Fado performance at an old quarter restaurant. Fado is a traditional style of singing, usually accompanied by guitar, that has become a well-known symbol of Portuguese culture. Songs reflect deeply felt emotions, often with a sea-faring theme.

Overnight: Lisbon



FIGURE 1 HEIRONYMOUS MONASTERY, LISBON

Day 3-Sunday March 20 B, D

Depart Lisbon, traveling north. We visit the Batalha Monastery, an architectural masterpiece of Portugal's Gothic and Manueline art. Magnificent stained-glass windows, cloisters, tombs of Portuguese notables including Henry the Navigator are on display. Due to its historical significance, authenticity and architectural significance, the Batalha Monastery was named as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

After lunch, we visit Conimbriga, a Roman Peristyle Garden, one of the most important Roman ruins in Portugal. The excavated site offers an insight into a typical Roman courtyard garden.



FIGURE 2 BELEM TOWER, LISBON

A rectangular pool lies at the heart of the complex of colonnaded buildings with curving beds planted with irises and herbs.

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Continue for a guided sightseeing tour of Coimbra's University including the terraced Botanical Garden and historic Baroque library, said to be one of the richest libraries in the world. The gardens contain plant species from all over the world arranged in separate sections for botanic study.

Continue to Porto. Dinner tonight in the hotel.

Overnight: Porto

Day 4-Monday March 21 B, L

Visit this morning the Quinta de Alao, a private manor house with attractive terraced gardens. Dating from the seventeenth century, the garden is embellished by classical statues, stone benches, and pools with fountains. One of the loveliest features found here is a wisteria clad pergola that runs the length of the gardens.

In the afternoon, there will be a guided tour of Porto, the country's second largest city sited at the mouth of the river Douro. This ancient city gives its name to both Port wine and to the name of Portugal. Much of its heritage is based on shipping and trade, making it a vibrant bustling city.

Lunch will be included in a well-known port wine cellar. This will be followed by a trip on the Douro by barge to explore the famous Douro Valley with its picturesque towns and beautiful scenery while sipping the traditional port wine as you travel.

Overnight: Porto



FIGURE 3 DOURO VALLEY

Day 5-Tuesday March 22 B

This morning visit the charming romantic garden at Quinta d'Allen, of the few surviving private estates that ringed the city in the 18th and 19th centuries. Created and maintained by seven generations of the Allen family, the Quinta has French-style parterres, formal and informal pools, and a wonderful collection of Camellias.

The rest of the day will be free for independent sightseeing/shopping. A possible inclusion of a private garden, might be included as an optional visit.

Overnight: Porto



FIGURE 4 CITY OF PORTO

Day 6-Wednesday March 23 B, D

In the morning, visit the sanctuary gardens and incredible Baroque staircase of Bom Jesus do Monte in Braga. One of the most photographed churches in Portugal, it is known for its intricate zig zag staircase (about 600 steps in total), that lead up to the basilica.

Continue to Guimaraes with some free time for lunch and time to explore independently.

Later, Beginning in Porto, drive through the Douro Valley, the home of Portugal's most popular wine region on one of the most scenic roads in the world.

Overnight: Vila Real

Day 7-Thursday March 24 1 B, L

Depart Vila Real and drive to the manor of Solar de Mateus, an ornate Baroque house and gardens with lake, colorfully planted parterres and Cypress tunnel. This is the home of the fabulous Portuguese Rose wine. Lunch included nearby.

Visit some private gardens this afternoon, the Quinta San Antonio in Barril de Alva and Quinta da Barocca in Candosa.

Continue to the Bussaco National Forest for overnight. The forest was originally the site of a Benedictine hermitage but the present landscape mostly dates from the seventeenth century when Barefoot Carmelites built a convent there as well as building a wall around the park. Papal Bulls were issued to protect the park from trespassers including one that forbade women to enter.

Overnight: Bussaco Forest



FIGURE 5 MATEUS WINERY

Day 8-Friday March 25 B

In the morning, there will be a guided tour of the forest park with its collection of native trees such as oak, pine, and imported exotic trees such as ginkgos, Japanese camphor trees, palms, and sequoias. Tree ferns, hydrangeas, mimosas, camellias, and magnolias add additional color. Continue to Lisbon and check into the hotel with the rest of the day free.

Overnight: Lisbon

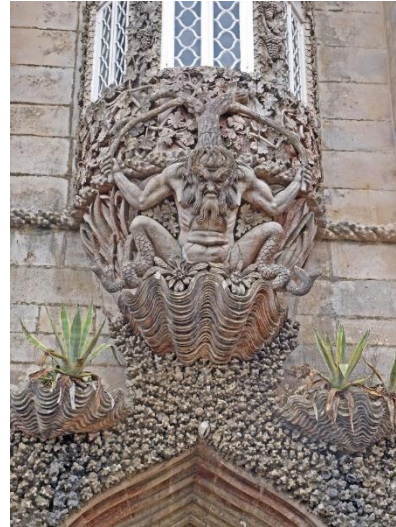


FIGURE 6 PENA PALACE

Day 9-Saturday March 26 B, L, D

We start the day with a visit to the Palacio Pena for a tour of the apartments and park with its areas of camellias and roses. The Palace was built in the Romantic style on a craggy peak in the Sintra mountain on the site of an old convent. The palace and gardens blend in subtly with their surroundings with the existing natural features of the landscape incorporated into the garden design.

Continue afterwards to Palacio de Seteais-now a deluxe hotel. Spacious front lawns and avenues of lime trees are a fitting setting for the building, which have matching facades and are linked by a triumphal arch built in 1802.

This afternoon there will be a visit to the gardens of Monserrate Park, surrounding a neo-oriental palace built in the 18th century. The gardens were transformed by Englishman Sir Francis Cook who bought the property in the 19th century. He re-designed the site in the romantic style utilizing the existing micro climates to create a series of gardens representing different areas of the world; Australia, Mexico, and Japan.

Farewell dinner tonight in a local restaurant.

Overnight: Lisbon

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Day 10-Sunday March 27 10 B

After breakfast, travel to Lisbon Airport for the return flight to the USA or continue on to Madeira.



FIGURE 7 CAMELLIA

Madeira Get-Away Excursion-4 Day Itinerary

Day 1-Sunday March 27 4 B,D

Arrive Madeira, check in, relax, and have an evening guided tour of the hotel's gardens followed by a lovely welcome dinner. Hotel Jardins do Lago (See Day 4, as we could go direct to the Palheiro gardens from the airport, according to flight arrival times),

Dinner tonight at hotel.

Overnight: Funchal

Day 2- Monday March 28 5 B

This morning we take the cable car to Monte, to visit the gardens of Quinta do Monte and fabulous Monte Palace Tropical Garden. Later we transfer by cable car to the Jardim Botânico da Madeira for a visit. Following this we descend into Funchal by coach for a visit to a special private collection of rare orchids curated by their owner who recently left Kew Gardens.

Dinner at leisure in Funchal this evening.

Overnight: Funchal

Day 3-Tuesday March 29 B, L, D

Today we have a full day sightseeing tour of this spectacular island, stopping to visit botany along

the way and including a short walk to the viewpoint at Balcoes and a clifftop lunch at the stunning Quinta do Furo.

Farewell dinner at Quinta do Lago including tour of the garden.

Overnight: Funchal

Day 4-Wednesday March 30 7 B

This morning we make a final visit to the beautiful English-style gardens of Quinta do Palheiro (this visit could be done directly upon arrival in Madeira instead).

Following this, we transfer to Funchal airport for our flights back to Lisbon, and homeward.



FIGURE 8 JARDIM BOTANICO DA MADEIRA



FIGURE 9 JARDIM BOTANICO DA MADEIRA

Our Tour Guide: Gavin Bade

Gavin Bade is an independent tour guide who has been interested in the history, language, and cuisine of other cultures all his life. He brings destinations 'to life' with vivid commentary and he has traveled extensively. He has a wide knowledge of botany and is fluent in three languages and proficient in two more. His broad experience with European gardens, and his deep knowledge of the continent's history makes him the perfect guide for this tour.

Tour Planner, Administrator & Escort: Claire Jones

A past Director of Federated GC of MD, Claire Jones, has been planning garden trips to England, Wales, and Scotland, and is an avid garden traveler with a library of over 100,000 images of gardens around the world. A photographer, landscape designer, and garden blogger at TheGardenDiaries, Claire loves to travel anywhere that there are gardens and interesting sights. Contact Claire at ionesb1@comcast.net or 443-927-6285.

Tour Reservations Will Be Accepted On-Line at ionesb1@comcast.net Until April 30, 2019

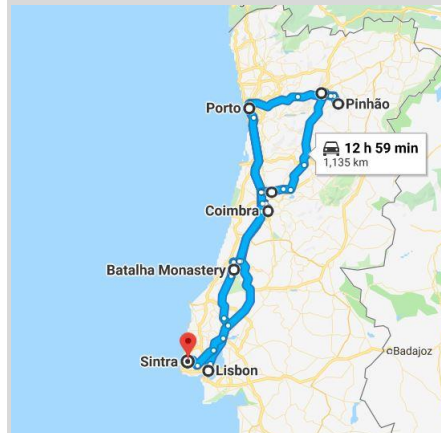
Tour Agent

The Agent/Company for this tour is Pathfinders/STITA Tours of Cheltenham, UK. Claire Jones acts only as a representative for the tour participant to communications with the Agent.

Main Tour Includes:

- 10 days, 9 nights lodging 5 star hotels
- All breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners(including Fado performance)
- Coach services (bus) for duration of tour
- Sightseeing entrances to Jeronimos Monastery, Gulbenkian Museum, Fronteira Palace, Batalha Monastery, Coimbra University Library, Coimbra University, Botanical Garden, Quinta de Alao, Caso do Infante, Palacio da Bolsa, Quinta d'Allen, Sanctuary of Bom Jesus, Solar de Mateur, Bussaco Forest (guided), Quinta de Monserrate Pena Palace

- Guided tours of Lisbon and Porto
- Porto Port Wine cruise (6 bridges)
- Services of an English/Portuguese speaking tour manager throughout
- Porterage of 1 piece luggage per person
- Local taxes on all included items



Not Included:

- Personal Expenses
- Gratuities to drivers, tour guide
- Air Fare
- Meals not listed
- Travel Insurance (recommended)

Tour members may skip garden visits to do their own sightseeing, except during days when the group transfers to a new hotel.

Madeira Extension Includes:

- 3 Nights hotel accommodations, 5 Star, at Hotel Pestana Casino (sea view rooms)
- Breakfast daily, 2 dinners and 1 lunch
- Deluxe air-conditioned coach for the services as specified on itinerary
- One way cable car journey to Palheiro Gardens, Quinta do Monte, Monte Palace Tropical Gardens, Jardim Botânico da Madeira, Quinta do Lago
- Services of an English/Portuguese speaking tour manager throughout

-Porterage of 1 luggage per person

-Local taxes on all included items

Not Included:

-All flights

-Items of a personal nature

-Gratuities to driver and guide

Special Requests:

Tour members are requested to inform us at the time of booking of any special medical, dietary, or other requests. We will do our best to accommodate all requests, but cannot guarantee that such requests will be met.

Baggage:

Porterage of one piece of luggage per person is included in the tour. As space is often limited, we strongly suggest that you limit luggage to one suitcase and one 'carry on'.

Price:

The main tour is set at a minimum of 15 and maximum of 25 participants and a minimum of 10 for the extension. Prices are in **Euros** with U.S. Estimates (March 2019) based on conversion rate of 1 Euro=\$1.13

Double Room (sharing)

Euro per person 3,460 US \$3,926.00

Single Room

Euro 830 US \$941.00 Additional

Tour extension, Double Room (sharing)

Euro per person 830 US \$941.00

Tour extension, Single Room

Euro 230 US \$260.00 Additional

Because the tour is priced in Euros but will be invoiced to you in dollars, the estimated US price may change depending on the currency exchange rate at the time the final payment is made to the agent (Pathfinders)

Tour deposits and payments, when required, may be made by Visa/Master Card. Credit card **payments are subject to a 3% processing fee.** Can also be paid through Transferwise-fees online. A \$50 contribution to both Federation Garden Clubs of MD and Horticultural Society of MD, both tax exempt charitable organization, is included in the price. Your contribution may be tax deductible.

Deposit, Payments, and Invoicing:

A \$200 good faith non-refundable deposit is required to hold your spot once your participation has been confirmed by email. The schedule for payment is included under tour conditions & other information following this page.

Refunds & Cancellations:

Regardless of the reason, cancellations negatively impact the planning of the tour. The long lead times required to schedule a tour, including prepayments by our tour planner to

hotels and other tour suppliers, mean that tour money may not be refundable. To offset any non-refundable payments and/or lost revenue, the following cancellation policy applies to this tour:

If the minimum number of participants for the tour has not been reached by the Agent's deadline and is subsequently canceled by the tour planner, the deposit is refunded in full.

If the tour is full and the space is subsequently filled from a waiting list, the deposit is refunded in full.

Travel & Cancellation Insurance:

As unforeseen situations do arise from time to time, participants are encouraged to consider purchasing travel or cancellation insurance. Information regarding third party companies providing this coverage is available on the internet.

Additional Information: Please contact Claire Jones at jonesb1@comcast.net if you have any questions regarding this tour.

This is a non-smoking tour and no smoking is permitted on the coach, or group activities or meals. Each participant is required to fill out and sign the attached tour conditions within 30 days of acceptance.

Hotels, Portugal 5 Star:

Hotel Porto Bay Liberdade, Lisbon

Pestana Vintage Hotel, Porto

Vintage House Hotel, Pinhao

Bussaco Palace Hotel

Hotel, Madeira 5 Star:

Hotel Pestana Casino (sea view)

Tour Conditions & Other Information

Acceptance of your tour reservation: Tour reservations are processed in the order received. You will be notified by your tour escort Claire Jones, once your reservation has been accepted.

Participants:

The tours are designed for a minimum of 15 participants, If the tour does not fill to the minimum, there is a supplemental charge per person. If this situation occurs, registrants will be advised of the change in pricing and will have the opportunity to reconsider their tour application. Please do not book any non-refundable airfare until you have been notified by your tour escort.

Deposit: \$200 deposit to hold your spot, which is a good faith deposit which will be refunded once the tour commences. This payment is not applied to your final payment as it is refunded.

The agent/company for this tour is Pathfinder's/STITA tours of Cheltenham, UK.

Claire Jones acts only as representative for the tour participant with respect to communications with the agent.

Your deposit and final payment can be made by credit card (3% fee) or a wire transfer to Lloyds Bank (details will be given). Also, Transferwise, an online bank transfer company is another option that I use (fees may be less).

Tour participants must be physically and mentally fit. The success of any tour depends on each person's ability to participate and to cooperate with other tour members and with the tour escort. At times, this tour is moderately physically demanding, involving walking several miles over the day and getting in and out of a bus, traveling over cobblestones and moving luggage.

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Travel Information Form

Personal Information	
Full Traveler name Must match passport	
E-mail	
Passport Issuing Authority	
Passport Number	
Passport Expiration Date	
Street address w/city, state, and zip	
Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number	
Type of Room Requested	
If TWIN, provide name of roommate	
Do you want tour extension to Madeira?	
How Did You Hear About This Tour?	
<p>To Reserve a Space, a \$200 Deposit made out to Claire Jones is required which will be refunded to you at the start of the trip; If you cancel, the deposit will be retained, unless another participant is found to take your place. Mail deposit to Claire Jones, 4 Bellclare Cir, Sparks, MD 21152</p> <p>Airfare is not included in the price of this tour. Each participant will need to make their own airline reservation to arrive in Lisbon. Pathfinders is booking flights to Madeira for those who elect to go on the extension. If you want to arrive earlier and/or leave later, arrangements can be made with Pathfinders to stay extra nights. Please <i>Do Not</i> make your airline reservations until the Organizer has guaranteed (by email) that the tour will proceed.</p> <p>Important Dates: 10% Due by November 1, 2021 to Pathfinders (Elise) at 877-753-6386- Toll free number, +5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time</p> <p>Final Payment Due by January 15, 2022 to Pathfinders at 877-753-6386</p>	

Terms & Conditions

The travel company providing this tour is Pathfinders/STITA Tours of Cheltenham, UK ("Pathfinders"). The person organizing this tour is Claire Jones. She is not an agent or employee of Pathfinders; she acts only as your contact with Pathfinders. By placing your deposit for this tour, you agree that you have read and agree to these Terms and Conditions. You further agree that this is a release of any claim that you may have against Pathfinders, as well as Claire Jones, Claire Jones Landscapes LLC (collectively "Claire Jones"), and tour co-sponsor organizations (Horticultural Society of Maryland and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland), arising out of this tour.

By participating in this trip, participant acknowledges and provides consent that images from the trip may include those of participants and could be used for future trip promotion, shared on social media, shared by other tour participants, as well as other use.

Each tour is guaranteed to proceed as soon as the minimum of 15 reservations has been met. In the event that our reservation minimum is not met by November 1, 2020, the Organizer reserves the right to cancel the tour. Deposits/payments will be refunded in full if the tour is canceled.

Price: Published tour prices are based upon current exchange rates, tariffs and taxes. Fluctuations in these rates could result in a price adjustment without prior notice until the tour is paid in full. Once the price for the tour is paid in full, the fee will not be adjusted due to any later change in exchange rates, tariffs or taxes.

Changes in itinerary details: The Organizer and Pathfinders strive to operate according to our published itinerary. However, in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, or opportunities that would enhance the itinerary, adjustments may be necessary or appropriate. The Organizer and Pathfinders reserve the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their judgment, conditions warrant or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of participants. The Organizer will let you know about any important changes when you make your reservation. If you have already made your reservation, the Organizer will let you know as soon as we can if there is time before your departure.

All tours, trip and arrangements made by Sponsoring organizations and individuals are for the convenience and pleasure of those who elect to participate. Sponsoring organizations and individuals organizing the tours, trips, and arrangements do not assume responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participant(s), tour arrangements, or property in any matters pertaining to the Portugal Spring Tour.

Travel Protection Insurance is highly recommended and is not provided under this agreement. Cancel for any Reason (CAFR) travel insurance should be considered – it was of great benefit for those that had non-refundable airfare for trips cancelled due to travel restrictions in 2020. Medical Insurance coverage is also recommended; health insurance does not always extend to non-U.S. travel.

MEDICAL ISSUES: Tour participants must be physically and mentally fit, and able to participate and cooperate with other tour members and the tour escort. At times, this tour is moderately physically demanding, involving walking several miles over the day, getting in and out of a bus, traveling over cobblestones, and moving luggage. You acknowledge that you are fit to participate in this tour, and you do so at your own risk.

Participants in the tour are solely responsible for compliance with requisite inoculations, passports, paperwork, all other compliance issues with respect to all countries, states, regions, other, that are included in the tour. Participants are required to certify they have had Covid-19 vaccine(s) administered to them, with requisite lead time prior to trip departure as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Countries and locations outside the U.S. may have specific Covid and/or other health and/or health insurance requirements, subject to changes both prior to and during the trip.

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RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS

I agree to the Terms and Conditions set forth above. I assume all of the risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I may incur in connection with this tour. I hereby release, discharge, and hold harmless Pathfinders, its employees, officers, and agents, Claire Jones and Claire Jones Landscapes LLC, as well as tour co-sponsors Horticultural Society of Maryland and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, from any injury, damages or loss due to my participation in and travel to and from this tour.

Participant signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____